

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MURATA, Kaoru et al. Conf.:  
Int'l. Appl. No.: PCT/JP99/06336  
Appl. No.: New Group: AA  
Filed: May 10, 2001 Examiner:  
For: DIFFUSION PROMOTING DEVICE FOR LOW FLOW  
VELOCITY GRADIENT HIGH PERFORMANCE LIQUID  
CHROMATOGRAPHY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

**BOX PATENT APPLICATION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

May 10, 2001

Sir:

The following Preliminary Amendments and Remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

AA1  
Before line 1, insert --This application is the national phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of PCT International Application No. PCT/JP99/06336 which has an International filing date of November 12, 1999, which designated the United States of America and was not published in English.--